



CHANGE FOR THE BETTER WITH ENERGY STAR

Products that earn the ENERGY STAR® prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.
www.energystar.gov

Cool Your World with ENERGY STAR®

FAST FACTS

The average family spends \$1,900 a year on energy bills, nearly half of which goes to heating and cooling. By reducing the amount of electricity used to cool your home, you can also reduce the electricity generated by burning fossil fuels. Burning fossil fuels releases greenhouse gas emissions into our air. By using less energy to cool your home you will help reduce the risks of global warming.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) encourages homeowners to cool their homes smartly with energy-efficient choices.

Where Do I Start?

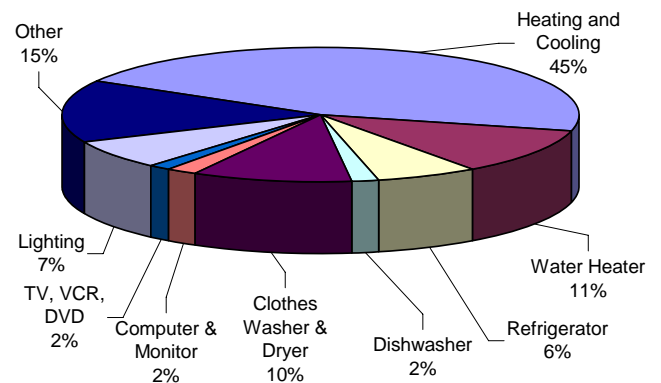
With a few simple steps, such as equipment maintenance, use of energy-efficient heating and cooling products, and home sealing, you can stay comfortable and save on your energy bills at the same time.

What Can I Do at Home?

Individual actions at home can add up to a lot of pollution prevention. With the help of ENERGY STAR, consumers can improve their home's energy efficiency, cut energy costs and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Here are ways you can save and help protect the environment from home:

- Go to **ENERGY STAR @ Home** interactive tool (www.energystar.gov/home) which provides energy-efficient home improvement ideas and energy saving tips and advice for your entire home.
- Improving your home's "envelope" or "shell" is the first and most important step you can take to maximize your home's energy efficiency and reduce your energy bill while protecting the environment. Home Sealing reduces uncomfortable drafts and helps avoid moisture problems through air sealing holes, cracks and gaps in the home.
- Schedule an annual, pre-season checkup with a licensed contractor to ensure your cooling system is operating efficiently and safely. Also, remember to clean or replace air filters regularly.
- If your cooling system is more than 12 years old and needs replacing, consider purchasing a new, energy-efficient system. Depending on where you live, replacing your old heating and cooling equipment with ENERGY STAR qualified equipment and sealing your ducts can cut your energy bill by as much as 20%, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In fact:
 - o If one in ten households bought ENERGY STAR heating and cooling products, the change would keep over 17 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions out of the air.
 - o If half of all American homes were cooled with ENERGY STAR qualified products, the change would prevent nearly 70 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions, equivalent to the emissions of nearly 6 million cars.
- Use a programmable thermostat to avoid cooling an empty house. ENERGY STAR qualified models have options and settings to keep you comfortable without wasting energy. In fact, when used properly, a programmable thermostat can save about \$100 in energy costs each year.

Where Does My Money Go?



How Can I Learn More?

For more information on how to make your cooling and heating system work more efficiently, visit www.energystar.gov/hvacguide and get EPA's Guide to Energy-Efficient Heating and Cooling.